

Are you a WRITER?

Do you love to create short stories ?

Write poems?

Do you enjoy reading and discussing all kinds of books?

Do you want to share your ideas with students from other countries?

Then apply to **Between the Lines!**



WHAT 1

BTL brings together young writers from the Arabic-speaking world and the United States for an intensive two-weeks of reading, creative writing, and cultural exchange through the International Writing Program in Iowa City, Iowa.

A typical day in the program includes a literature seminar and writing workshop led by published writers, plus plenty of free time to have fun and explore a part of the US!



WHO 2

To be eligible to apply, you must be:
16-19 years old

A native Arabic speaker capable of writing, reading, and speaking in English

Passionate about writing!



HOW 3

Apply by contacting the Cultural Affairs Officer at the U.S. Embassy for application information:

Name: Ruba Hattar

Phone: + 962 6 590 6050

Email: HattarRH@state.gov

Submit all application materials and writing samples by March 10, 2013.



The Between the Lines Program at the University of Iowa

Between the Lines (BTL) is a summer creative writing program that brings together young writers from the Near Eastern Affairs Countries and Other Areas (NEA) and American students for cultural exchange and enrichment. The Department of State is pleased to once again partner with the University of Iowa's International Writing Program for the 2013 cycle of this program. The session in Iowa City will begin on June 22 and end on July 8, 2013.

Participants travel to and from the United States in the company of an adult chaperone nominated by the embassy. The backdrop of the University of Iowa, located in Iowa City – the only UNESCO Creative City of Literature in North America – serves as inspiration for the students to grow as writers and provide them with the opportunity to explore cross-cultural dialogues on creative writing and literature.

Participants attend courses designed to both increase awareness of world literatures and improve their craft, including an English-language literature seminar and a language-specific writing workshop (Arabic or English). Classes are led by teachers who are respected writers in their own right. Extracurricular events and nightly activities allow students to deepen their understanding of each other's culture through their interactions with each other and with the larger community. During the session participants live in a residence hall and be supervised by live-in, trained counselors. The chaperone and counselors work together to help create a lively, supportive writing community. Travel, lodging and meals will be paid for. More program information is available on the IWP website at:

<http://iwp.uiowa.edu/programs/betweenthe-lines>.

The application must include:

°Part 1:

- 6-8 pages of creative work (poetry and/or fiction ONLY) in Arabic
- 6-8 pages of creative work (poetry and/or fiction ONLY) in English
- 2-5 pages of creative work (poetry and/or fiction ONLY) , in either language (Arabic or English), in response to one (1) of the following writing prompts:

➤ A person comes home and sees that someone new is moving into the apartment next to them. In the hallway is a giant cage with a colorful bird that talks, an open box full of shiny black shoes, and a strange machine the person has never seen before. The new neighbor's door is open – what happens? Write a short story or poem.

➤ Write a story or poem inspired by the following statement: "Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it."

- A statement of purpose (250 words maximum, in English) describing why creative writing is important to them and their life in their country of residence, and what they hope to learn at our program in Iowa.

° Part 2

- Basic information Needed: First name, family name, middle name; city of birth, country of birth, country of current residence, country of permanent residence, country of citizenship; gender; date of birth—month/day/year
- They should also provide a brief answer to the question: "How did you hear about Between the Lines?"
- Note: Students without a passport are expected to apply for one immediately upon acceptance into the program.

Please e-mail all applications to:

Ruba Hattar / Arabic Book Program Manager at the U.S. Embassy in Amman.

e-mail: hattarrh@state.gov

No later than March 10, 2013